

CAPSULE SUMMARY
BA-455
Spruce Hill Farm
16327 Hanover Road
Upperco, Baltimore County
1870 ca.
Private

Spruce Hill Farm at 16327 Hanover Pike is located in Woodensburg in the Fifth District of Baltimore County. Spruce Hill Farm is noted on the 1877 Hopkins Atlas under the ownership of George Prechtel. Listed as a patron of the Hopkins Atlas, Prechtel, of German origin, settled in the area in 1862 and by 1877 owned ten acres and was employed as a teacher. Prechtel constructed the house in the early 1870s. Residing at this location for approximately fifteen years George Prechtel conveyed the property to Andrew Belt, a neighboring resident, in 1897. Andrew and Julia Belt sold the property to William and Rosa Armacost in 1913. The house essentially remained in the Armacost family until 1985. It was purchased by the Hampstead Bank of Carroll County in 1950 and then sold back to the family two years later. In 1977 the mortgage was sold to William Dulany and returned in 1979 to John W. Armacost. In 1985 Christine L. Armacost conveyed the property to Meredith Clark, Meng Liu, and Judith P. Campbell. In 2002, a deed was created to remove Meng Liu from partial ownership.

Constructed circa 1870, Spruce Hill Farm is a two-and-a-half-story wood-frame house with a T-shaped footprint. Resting on a random-rubble stone foundation, this dwelling rises two-and-a-half-stories high and measures five bays across. Above the cross-gable roof sheathed with standing-seam metal are three interior-end corbeled brick chimneys. The residence is pierced with 2/2 wood-sash windows with square-edged surrounds. Features of the house include cornice returns, overhanging eaves, and a wood soffit. The original weatherboard siding is hidden with the non-historic concrete simulated-brick veneer. A one-story gable roof addition was constructed on the south elevation. This wood-frame section has an exterior-end shouldered brick chimney.

Inventory No. BA- 455

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Spruce Hill Farm

other

2. Location

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| street and number | 16327 Hanover Pike | not for publication |
|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|

| | | | |
|------------|---------|---|----------|
| city, town | Upperco | X | vicinity |
|------------|---------|---|----------|

county Baltimore County

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

| | |
|------|---------------------------------------|
| name | Meredith Clark and Judith P. Campbell |
|------|---------------------------------------|

| | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----------|---------------|
| street and number | 16327 Hanover Road | telephone | Not Available |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----------|---------------|

| | | | | | |
|------------|-----------|-------|----|----------|-------|
| city, town | Hampstead | state | MD | zip code | 21074 |
|------------|-----------|-------|----|----------|-------|

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse tax map and parcel: 25/1

| | | | | | |
|------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| city, town | Towson | liber | 16780 | folio | 501 |
|------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-----|

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report
☐ Other

6. Classification

| Category | | Ownership | | Current Function | | Resource Count | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|----------------|---|--------------------------------|
| | | | | | | Contributing | Noncontributing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | district | <input type="checkbox"/> | public | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> | landscape |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | private | <input type="checkbox"/> | commerce/trade | <input type="checkbox"/> | recreation/culture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | structure | <input type="checkbox"/> | both | <input type="checkbox"/> | defense | <input type="checkbox"/> | religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | site | | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | domestic | <input type="checkbox"/> | social |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | object | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | education | <input type="checkbox"/> | transportation |
| | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | funerary | <input type="checkbox"/> | work in progress |
| | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | government | <input type="checkbox"/> | unknown |
| | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | health care | <input type="checkbox"/> | vacant/not in use |
| | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | industry | <input type="checkbox"/> | other: |
| | | | | | | <input type="text" value="6"/> | <input type="text" value="0"/> |
| | | | | | | Total | |
| | | | | | | Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory | |
| | | | | | | <input type="text" value="1"/> | |

7. Description

Inventory No. BA- 455

Condition

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> altered |

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Spruce Hill Farm, constructed circa 1870, is a two-and-a-half-story wood-frame house with a T-shaped footprint. Resting on a random-rubble stone foundation, this dwelling rises two-and-a-half-stories high and measures five bays across. Above the cross-gable roof sheathed with standing-seam metal are three interior-end corbeled brick chimneys. The residence is pierced with 2/2 wood-sash windows with square-edged surrounds. Features of the house include cornice returns, overhanging eaves, and a wood soffit. The original weatherboard siding is hidden with the non-historic concrete simulated-brick veneer. A one-story gable roof addition was constructed on the south elevation. This wood-frame section has an exterior-end shouldered brick chimney.

Facing east, the fenestration of the façade is four windows on the first story and five on the second story. The central entrance contains a heavily molded paneled wood door which is illuminated with a one-light transom. The molded door surround is detailed with a dentil band. Across the full-width of the façade is a half-hipped roof porch supported with tapered wood posts on high square plinths.

The west elevation exhibits one 2/2 window on both the first and second story of the rear ell. Above the windows is a wood-louvered vent. One 2/2 window is visible on the second story of the main block on the west elevation.

SECONDARY RESOURCES

Sited directly to the rear of the main house are two chicken houses, a barn, corn crib, and a stable. The chicken coop, circa 1950, is one-story high and two bays wide. No foundation is visible and the wood-frame structural system is clad with vertical-board siding. The shed roof is covered with corrugated-sheet metal.

Dating circa 1910, the second chicken house is one story high and measures four bays across. The wood-frame structural system is capped with a side-gable roof sheathed with corrugated-sheet metal. Resting on a random-rubble stone foundation this chicken house is clad with board-and-batten siding. The gable-roof features wide eaves and exposed roof-rafters. It has a shed-roof addition on the east elevation resting on a solid poured concrete foundation.

Constructed circa 1870, the wood-frame barn is one-story high and measures one bay across. It is clad with vertical-board siding and capped with a side-gable roof sheathed with corrugated-sheet metal. It rests on a solid random-rubble stone foundation and the roof features overhanging eaves and exposed roof-rafters.

The wood-frame stable is clad with board-and-batten siding and is capped with a front-gable roof sheathed with asphalt roll. A foundation is not visible. This building dates to circa 1910 and is one-story high and measures two bays wide. A shed-roof addition was constructed on the north elevation.

Built circa 1950s, the one-story corn-crib is wood-frame and clad with vertical-board siding. It is capped with a front-gable roof and sits on a concrete piers. The siding is in a deteriorated condition.

8. Significance

Inventory No. BA- 455

| Period | Areas of Significance | Check and justify below | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> economics | <input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine | <input type="checkbox"/> performing arts | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2000- | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> science | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input type="checkbox"/> social history | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning | | <input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> other: | |

| | | | |
|---------------------------|----------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Specific dates | 1870 ca. | Architect/Builder | George Prechtel (owner) |
| Construction dates | 1870 ca. | | |

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register ☐ Maryland Register ☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

Spruce Hill Farm at 16327 Hanover Pike is located near Upperco in the Fifth District of Baltimore County. The Fifth District is situated between the Fourth and Sixth Districts bordering Carroll County to the west and the Seventh District to the east. According to the Hopkins Atlas of 1877 the natural resources and industry in the Fifth District include timber, saw mills, wheat, corn, oats, rye, and limestone. The prominent towns in the district include Beckleysville, Mt. Carmel, Upperco, and Butler. Upperco originally stood for Upper County stemming from its location in the upper reaches of Baltimore County.

By 1877, the small community of Fowblesburg, named for the Fowble family, included a schoolhouse and tavern. The nearby town of Upperco, similarly named for one of the area's predominant families, was the location of a general store and Methodist Episcopal Church. A toll gate was located between the two communities on Hanover Turnpike, a branch of the Baltimore and Reisterstown Turnpike, which replaced the Old Hanover Road as the primary route from Baltimore to Hanover in Carroll County. Between 1877 and 1915, the Western Maryland Railroad was developed through the towns of Fowblesburg and Upperco, resulting in a greater economic vitality throughout the area.

Spruce Hill Farm is noted on the 1877 Hopkins Atlas under the ownership of George Prechtel. Listed as a patron of the Hopkins Atlas, Prechtel, of German origin, settled in the area in 1862 and by 1877 owned ten acres and was employed as a teacher. Prechtel constructed the house in the early 1870s. Residing at this location for approximately fifteen years George Prechtel conveyed the property to Andrew Belt, a neighboring resident, in 1897. Andrew and Julia Belt sold the property to William And Rosa Armacost in 1913. The house essentially remained in the Armacost family until 1985. It was purchased by the Hampstead Bank of Carroll County in 1950 and then sold back to the family two years later. In 1977 the mortgage was sold to William Dulany and returned in 1979 to John W. Armacost. In 1985 Christine L. Armacost conveyed the property to Meredith Clark, Meng Liu, and Judith P. Campbell. In 2002, a deed was created to remove Meng Liu from partial ownership.

CHAIN OF TITLE

Parcel 1:
April 1, 1874 William A. Burke and wife to Andrew Belt
Baltimore County Courthouse
Liber JB 86 Folio 325

Parcel 2:
December 23, 1882 Jackson Belt and wife to Andrew Belt
Baltimore County Courthouse
Liber WMI 132 Folio 326

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No BA- 455

Name Spruce Hill Farm

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

Parcel 3: MAIN HOUSE

June 11, 1897 George Prechtel to Andrew Belt
Baltimore County Courthouse
Liber LMB 225 Folio 323

February 6, 1913 Andrew J. and Julia A. Belt to William E. and Rosa Armacost
Baltimore County Courthouse
Liber WPC 408 Folio 241

June 30, 1950 Rosa Armacost to John and Mary Armacost
Baltimore County Courthouse
Liber TBS Folio 71

March 14, 1947 Marshall F. and Carrie Armacost to John and Mary Armacost
Baltimore County Courthouse
Liber JWB 1548 Folio 512

June 30, 1950 John and Mary Armacost to Hampstead Bank of Carroll County
Baltimore County Courthouse
Liber TBS 1843 Folio 534

September 4, 1952 Lillian G. Daniels to Armacost
Baltimore County Courthouse
Liber GLB 2168 Folio 363

July 18, 1977 John W.T. Armacost to William B. Dulany
Baltimore County Courthouse
Liber Unknown

February 14, 1979 William B. Dulany to John W.T. Armacost
Baltimore County Courthouse
Liber 6031 Folio 281

February 21, 1983 John W.T. Armacost to John W.T. and Christine L. Armacost
Baltimore County Courthouse
Liber EHK, Jr. 6511 Folio 654

October 14, 1985 Christine L. Armacost to Meredith Clark, Meng Liu, and Judith P. Campbell
Baltimore County Courthouse
Liber 7014 Folio 636

December 30, 1999 Ann B.C. Barclay to Meng Ching Liu, Meredith S. Clark, and Judith Page Campbell
Baltimore County Courthouse
Liber 14257 Folio 141

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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Name Spruce Hill Farm

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

August 13, 2002

Meredith Clark and Meng Liu and Judith Campbell to Meredith Clark and Judith Campbell
Baltimore County Courthouse
Liber 16780 Folio 501

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA- 455

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 15.20 acres

Acreage of historical setting Unknown

Quadrangle name Hampstead, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Spruce Hill Farm is located at 16327 Hanover Pike near the historic village of Upperco in the Fifth District of Baltimore County. It has historically been associated with tax map 25 parcel 1 since its construction circa 1870.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kristie Baynard, Architectural Historian

organization E.H.T. Traceries, Inc.

date 4/7/03

street and number 1121 Fifth Street, NW

telephone 202-393-1199

city or town Washington

state DC zip code 20001

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032
410-514-7600

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA- 455

Name Spruce Hill Farm

Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 1

Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.

Baltimore County Historic Inventory.

Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. A History of Baltimore County. Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.

Map of Baltimore County. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men. Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.

Sidney, J. C. Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys. Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.

BA- 455

SPRUCE HILL FARM

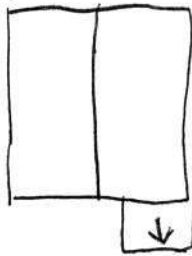
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BALTIMORE County, MD

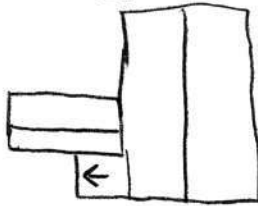
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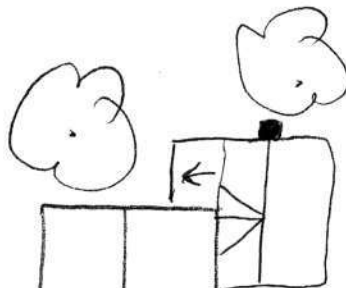
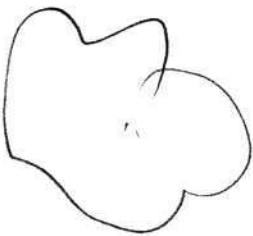
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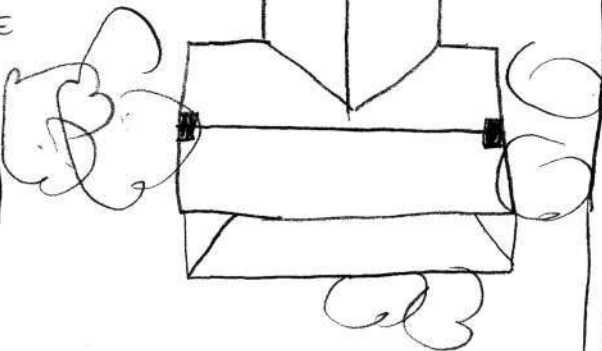
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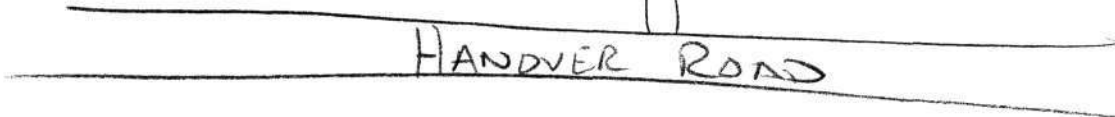
CHICKEN
HOUSE



WESTERN MD RAILROAD



HANOVER ROAD



[illegible]

BA-455
 Spruce Hill Farm
 16327 Hanover Pike
 Upperco, Baltimore County
 Hampstead, MD USGS Map

5663 III SW
 (WESTMINSTER)
 PATAPSCO 3.6 MI.
 HOUCKSVILLE 0.5 MI.

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BA-455
SPRUKE HILL FARM
16327 Handover Road
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRACERIES
3/2003
MD SHPO
MAIN HOUSE, WEST ELEVATION
1 of 6



BA-455
SPRUCE HILL FARM
16327 Hanover Road
BALTIMORE County, MD
TRACERIES
3/2003
MD SAPO
MAIN HOUSE, EAST ELEVATION
2 of 6



BA-455
SPRUCE HILL FARM
16327 HANOVER ROAD
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRACERIES
3/2003
MD SHPO
CHICKEN HOUSE, VIEW LOOKING NORTHEAST

3 of 6



BA-455
SPRUCE HILL FARM
16327 HANOVER ROAD
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

3/2003

MD SHPO

OUTBUILDINGS, VIEW LOOKING NE

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BA-455
SPRUCE HILL FARM
16327 HANDOVER ROAD
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRACERIES
3/2003
MD SHPD
STABLE, VIEW LOOKING SOUTHEAST
5 of 6



BA-455
SPRUCE HILL FARM
16327 Hanover Road
Baltimore County, MD

TRACERIES

3/2003

MD SHPO

CORN CRIB, SOUTH ELEVATION

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PA- 455

SPRUCE HILL FARM - 1850 - 16327 Hanover Pike (East of Hanover Pike and east of WMRR tracks, 0.9 mile north of Arcadia Avenue, Arcadia vicinity.) North side of a private road. Frame and stone house; gable roofed; clapboard siding covered with composition shingles; vernacular style. This was an early Belt family house; addition made in 1880. Owner: J.W.T. Armacost.

BA-455

BA-455

Spruce Hill Farm

Hampstead Quad, 1953, PR 1974

